

stationed at Baghdad, Iraqi. In April 2008, Master Sergeant Miller returned home.

Master Sergeant Miller took the position as First Sergeant (1SG), April 2012, with the 4/323rd REGT, this is a Drill Sergeant Unit, U.S. Army Reserve. Master Sergeant Miller recalls when he was stationed in Germany, assigned to the 249th ENG BN, his First Sergeant at the time asked him if he wanted to go to Drill Sergeant School and he declined. Master Sergeant Miller wishes today that his First Sergeant would have asked him several times and given him more information on becoming a Drill Sergeant. In the reserve component the First Sergeant is just the manager of the unit, he or she does not have to be a Drill Sergeant.

As of March 17, 2014, Master Sergeant Miller is now re-assigned to the 412th Theater Engineer Command, Vicksburg, Mississippi. He speaks highly about the 412th Theater Command, he says, he is now back home. Master Sergeant Miller is fully aware that his military career is now coming to an end, and when he does retire it will be a difficult transition. Serving in the military was never a mistake to him, it is a privilege which he is so glad that he took advantage of to serve our great country.

Master Sergeant Miller has numerous military occupation specialties, he is qualified as an Army Maintenance Management System Clerk, Prescribed Load List Clerk, Ammunition Specialist, Transportation Operator, Military Police, Physical Security Specialist, and Supply Specialist.

During Master Sergeant Miller's military career, he has received numerous awards, not listed in prestigious order to include: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Occupation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Overseas Service Ribbons, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Overseas Training Ribbons, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army NCO Professional, Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Southwest Asia Service Ribbons and Drivers Badge.

Master Sergeant Miller is married to Mrs. Florine Miller and they have 3 daughters: Lakechia, Tiffany, and Alexis; one son, French and 6 grandchildren. Master Sergeant Miller is son of Eddie & Evelyn Brown, and Willard Hughes and has 2 sisters: Jackie and Shelia; and 5 brothers: Willous, Allen, Reginald, Michael and Willard.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a distinguished American Soldier.

HONORING THE NEW PALESTINE HIGH SCHOOL DRAGONS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Palestine High School Dragons on their first state football championship.

The Dragons faced off against the New Prairie Cougars on November 28th at Lucas Oil Stadium. During their first appearance in the Indiana state football finals in more than

20 years, the team made their mark by breaking the record for total points, total yards, and most touchdowns and extra points. In the end, the Dragons won the Class 4A state final 77–42 over the Cougars.

I am proud of these young men for not only their remarkable win, but also for the Hoosier sportsmanship that they each displayed throughout the game. Their dedication to excellence and their perseverance was evident not just in this game, but throughout the entire 2014 season. I want to commend Coach Kyle Ralph and all of the assistant coaches who led these young men through this historic season.

I want to again congratulate the New Palestine Dragons on both their hard-earned victory in the state finals, as well as on their record-breaking 2014 football season. I look forward to hearing about the accomplishments of each of these young men in the future, and I wish the Dragons the best of luck in the 2015 season.

IN RECOGNITION OF LEN STONE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Len Stone who is departing the Pacifica City Council after serving with distinction during these past four years.

Mr. Stone is a local business owner and resident of Pacifica since 2002. He and his wife, Jessica, have two young children. In addition to his service to the community while on the city council, Len Stone served for five years on the Board of Directors of the Pacifica Chamber of Commerce.

Pacifica is a city nestled between the Pacific Ocean and the hills. Its young families are energetic and often part of Silicon Valley's high tech businesses. Its longtime residents are rightfully proud of many traditions of environmental protection that have shaped modern Pacifica. Newer residents move to Pacifica to enjoy the ocean, Pacifica's great beaches, its strong schools and its natural beauty.

During his four years on the Pacifica City Council, Len Stone focused tirelessly on all of the qualities of Pacifica that make it a special place in this nation. He led the effort to improve economic development. He successfully sought to have an economic development director position created in city government. He worked to recruit new businesses to town, and he wanted to expand the tax base by filling the vacant storefronts that sometimes exist in shopping centers and shopping areas in this marvelous community.

Len is deeply committed to making Pacifica a destination for more people from outside the community, and so his support of tourism is energetic. To this end, he and another councilmember recently negotiated an option on land that will, if purchased and improved, fill the missing link in the coastal trail. With the opening of the Devil's Slide trail just south of Pacifica, the city is an even greater magnet for tourists seeking vigorous, outside excursions. During both his term as mayor and while on the council, Len sought to position Pacifica as an unrivaled place to bring a family for an outdoor adventure.

Len joined the city council during the worst economic downturn in modern times. This

downturn hit Pacifica's tax base hard. Residents had to leave town to do major shopping and to enjoy entertainment options such as movies. The city's budget, never flush, was in deficit. Len sought to balance the budget and to retain needed services. As a businessperson, he was aware that new ways of doing things were needed to help close the deficit. It is difficult for a community to change, but if any community can pull together to find solutions, I have faith that Pacifica is that community. Len, who participated in countless budget and study sessions, demonstrated the energy that many Pacifica residents possess when confronted with challenges.

Mr. Speaker, it is never easy or simple to serve in local government. If times are good then your neighbors expect a great deal. If times are not so great then your neighbors wonder why you are shuttering a popular local field or laying off longtime personnel or considering changes in the services of the city. Len Stone is an example of local councilmembers throughout our nation: he is smart, tenacious, and deeply committed to the community that he serves at great expense to his personal time and family life. Please join with me in honoring the public service of Len Stone, departing city councilmember of Pacifica. Thankfully, he will retire from public life but not from the community that he and his family love. Pacifica will therefore continue to have the talents of this resourceful young man to call upon in the years to come.

S. 1691: "BORDER PATROL AGENT PAY REFORM ACT OF 2014"

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1691, the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014.

This measure would replace the current antiquated overtime system used by the Border Patrol and create a new pay system that results in more hours worked on the border, provides more reliable schedules and paychecks for agents, and saves taxpayers millions of dollars each year.

As Chairman of the Border and Maritime Security Subcommittee, I have been focused on increasing border security efforts along our long and porous border and supporting the men and women of the U.S. Border Patrol who defend our nation against drug and human smugglers and others who would do us harm.

This measure supports that effort.

The men and women who secure our borders often work alone, in very remote locations on the border. They cannot simply punch a clock at the end of their shift if they are in pursuit of illicit border crossers. Instead they work irregular hours to track and apprehend dangerous criminal aliens.

This bill will allow front line supervisors to better manage agents' work schedules, saving taxpayers millions of dollars each year. In fact, according to the Congressional Budget Office, this bill will save taxpayers up to \$100 million a year.

Last year, the Office of Special Counsel issued a scathing report about the misuse and